25¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

May 30th, 1974, Issue No. 20

CLUB NEWS

BALDWIN ROD & GUN CLUB

Ed Buttain tells us the Baldwin Rod and Gun Club held its spring Flounder Charter on Sunday, May 5th, at Greenport on the "Lillian M". Fishing was slow but a good time was had by all. The pool fish was won by Al Foutch.

The club's next charter is June 9th, for weakfish, on the same boat.

ROCKAWAY STRIPER CLUB AWARDS

The Rockaway Striper Club held its annual awards dinner on April 27th at the Chelsea Lobster House. The following awards were given to members:

Largest Surf Bass—Bill Silletti-31 lbs.
Largest Surf Blue—Ben Grodner-13 lbs.
Club Sportsman of Year—Ed. Wolfe.

RSC books are open for a fewfishermen interested in joining an active fishing club. Prospective members can call Stan Hyman at 212-NE4-0248.

SQUAW-ISLAND FISHING CLUB, INC.

Jim Burns of Columbian Bronze was a guest speaker at the Squaw Island Fishing Club regular meeting, where he spoke on problems caused by propulsion and electronic equipment used by the boating public.

Jim is available for guest speaker appearances to all bonafide fishing clubs, yacht clubs and boating clubs. There is **no charge** for this service. Just call Columbian Bronze at 516-FR8-0470 for an appointment with Jim.

HUNTINGTON ANGLERS' CLUB ANNUAL FLOUNDER TRIP

On May 5, 25 members of the Huntington Anglers' Club made their annual flounder trip out of the Port of Egypt with very good results. The winners were: 1st Prize—Harry Maura —2¾ lb. Flounder
2nd Prize (tie between) Joe Mc Menomen, SR., and Phil Beck—who both had 2½ lb. flounders
3rd Prize—Junior member Bob Beck —2 lb. 7 oz. flounder.

All prizes were won on Phil Beck's boat. The total catch was 68 flounders—up to 2¾ lbs. plus 12 weakfish up to 4½ lbs. The big flounders were caught off Gardiners Island and weaks at Buoy 17.

TROUT UNLIMITED (L.I. CHAPTER) AGAINST SPRAYING

The surprise announcement last month that the Department of Environmental Conservation planned to spray Sevin over Long Island parks was greeted with great consternation. While the state claimed, "no verified reports of fish kill or any other detrimental effects to fish population," TU fears otherwise. At their last board meeting they voted to send letters apposing this action and to check on legal actions, if necessary. They believe that a terrific toll would be taken of the insect population in the waters, and hope that, because some of the Long Island officials in charge oppose aerial spraying, this project never gets underway. Don't sit back and relax, though. More letters can help. According to Art Cooley of the Environmental Defense Foundation, letters should be sent in support of the position to the following people who are in opposition to the spraying:

Mr. John Chester—County Supervisor of Parks, Hauppague, N.Y.
Mr. Peter Cohalan—Supervisor, Islip, N.Y.
Mr. H.L. Bill—Long Island State Parks Commission, Belmont Lake State Park
Ms. Hope Spencer—Newsday, Garden City, N.Y.

Ask the following to drop all plans of aerial spraying: Mr. James Big gane, Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12201. Also ask your local legislators to oppose the spraying.

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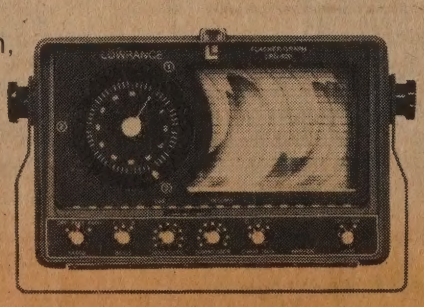

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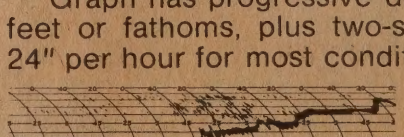

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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Nick Zigo, Paul Percodino, Gabby Ciuffo and Charles Romano boated 50 keeper fluke drifting around the south end of Snakehill Channel. Photo courtesy of Augie's Bait & Tackle.

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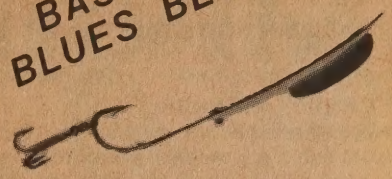
BASS & BLUES BEWARE!



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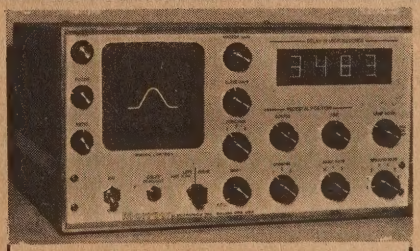

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Chum Lines

BUNKER

Two recent letters printed in your publication have made a bone stick in my craw. The first, in your latest issue, is from a Mr. Al Jensen from Mt. Sinai, New York. In actuality, Mr. Jensen is the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Regional Supervisor of Marine and Coastal Resources. In his letter to you he seemed very disturbed that at a White Plains Bunker Meeting I had stated that the American Menhaden fishing industry had gone down to Peru during the 1960's and helped the Peruvians overfish their anchovey industry which, in part, caused its collapse.

I have enclosed photostats of articles taken from the New York Times of 3/5/74, The Washington Post of 1/174, and the Japan Times of 11/11/73 (I was over there at the time), and have underlined in red where in each story it clearly says that **overfishing** along with the shift in the Humbolt current caused the decline of the anchovey fishery. Also, the February, 1974, issue of Fortune Magazine, page 89, points this out.

I also talked to Mr. Carlos Mendosa, P.O. Box 220, Maplewood, New Jersey on the telephone today. Mr. Mendosa is the Commercial Attache to the Peruvian Consulate in New York for fish meal products in the United States. He told me that in 1971 the Peruvians landed a record 12 million tons of anchovies which in his words "caused the population to suffer considerably". Agreeing that the warming of the Humbolt Current caused the fish to move seeking colder water, he then stated that it is clear that it was a mistake of the Bureau of Fisheries to allow that many fish to be taken, but they were under social pressures to increase the catch, and it is a fact "they did overfish". However, the new Bureau of Fisheries is being very careful that this doesn't happen again.

The collapse of the anchovy fishery put extreme pressures on our domestic menhaden fishery to produce more fish meal and the price skyrocketed to almost 500 dollars per ton. As a result, the menhaden fishermen became very greedy and cleaned out Long Island Sound.

The next bone in my craw was the letter written to you from a Mr. Roger A. Kele of Nanvet, New York in which he lauds a piece about menhaden which was published in the April-May issue of New York State Conservationist magazine.

The first question that comes to my mind is who Mr. Kele works for and why is he so interested in getting articles about menhaden published. (I also wonder why Al Jensen, who never says he works for the State Conservation Dept., is so interested in anchovies?)

Now for the article itself. It was written by Charles Meyers. When I asked Mr. David Clark, the President of Seacoast Products, the biggest menhaden netter in these parts whether he knew Charles Meyers, he told me they've known each other for years.

Then in the article itself Mr. Meyers quotes and uses as references a book published in 1876 and Fishery Leaflet 412 which was published 1953, 21 years ago, to show that there is a great deal of mystery about the menhaden supplies and sources. If Mr. Meyers had looked at any of the **current** government publications he would read that:

In the Fishery Bulletin Vol. 69, No.4, 1971, page 781, it states "...Schaaf and Huntsman have shown that with present levels of fishing effort, the spawning stock of Atlantic menhaden is inadequate for recovery of the population."

Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, November, 1971, in a piece done by Mr. Robert Chapoton, who is the head of the Menhaden Task Force for the National Marine Fisheries Service. On page 140 he states "...the Gulf menhaden fishery is reaching or has reached predicted maximum yields. Landings in 1971 are estimated at 690,000 tons,...this catch is a significant 59% greater than the level identified as being sustainable."

I think all of these men should stop trying to (expletive deleted) us fishermen and get **their** facts straight before they write about menhaden and Peruvian anchovies. Art Glowka, Director, Hudson River Fishermen's Assoc., Striped Bass Fund.

Mr. Glowka, well-known outdoor writer and activist in the ecology movement, supports his statements with copies of the newspaper clippings referred to in his letter. We cannot, however, reprint these articles due to their excessive length.

We await responses to Mr. Glowka's letter, especially that of Mr. Jensen, since he is, in fact, the Regional Supervisor of Marine and Coastal Resources for the D.E.C. Now that, as a private citizen, he has made his views—in favor of commercial bunker fishing, without scientific knowledge or supportive data—known, perhaps he would give the readers his official D.E.C. view on the matter.

By law Mr. Jensen is charged with the responsibilities of managing marine and coastal resources for the people of New York State, and his reply promises interesting reading, since he apparently entertains conservation ideals that exist through two diametrically opposed points of view within the same brain. The horns of the dilemma are indeed sharp!

In any event, should mr. Jensen fail to present adequate responses to pertinent questions that are being asked, we will have no alternative than to write to Albany and demand to know why Long Islanders must suffer from a complete lack of ecologically sound decisions and practices dealing with our marine environs.

TIDES AND BASS

I am a striper fisherman who has subscribed to the L.I.F. for the last three years. Although I study each issue religiously, one thing I have never fully understood is the role of the tides in catching stripers. How about an article concerning tides and their influences at different points around the island, particularly the north shore beaches.

I have subscribed for three years and it would be a big step for me to cancel, but I think I am like a lot of north shore fishermen who stick to the beaches. A little more consideration for guys like me would probably be a good move. Mark Darcy, Huntington, N.Y.

If you are catching bass with regularity, you will know the effects that tides have. So we'll assume, for argument's sake, you're not catching as many striped bass as you'd like to.

First of all, tides are only one factor of many involved in catching these often highly selective fish. Let us, therefore, cover all the basics by recommending a few books for study.

1. The Complete Book of Striped Bass Fishing, *Lyman & Woolner, A.S. Barnes & Company, Cranbury, N.J. (1972).*
2. How To Catch Salt Water Fish, *Wisner, Doubleday & Company, Garden City, N.Y. (1973).*
3. Bait Tail Fishing, *Reinfelder, A.S.Barnes & co., Cranbury, N.J. (1969).*

You'll be able to glean numerous methods and techniques from these books that will help.

Talk to local fishermen and tackle shop proprietors about which tides are being favored at any particular time. This means that bass, being fussy, will

not always be active at the same tidal stage in all areas of the north shore (or any other) under varying conditions. It's a difficult subject at best, and really requires one, or a series of articles.

If there are any budding authors out there that have the basic knowledge to pass on to Mr. Darcy, let us know.

If not, the best we can offer is to write one ourselves when time permits. That, unfortunately, is always our big problem. We'll work on it, though.

PURCHASING CHARTS

I would like to know where I might purchase charts of the Hampton Bays area and East Moriches waters. Ed Last, Riverdale, New Jersey.

The chart number for the areas in which you are interested is 120 S-C. You'll have to check local marine supply stores to determine who carries it in your area.

If you are unsuccessful in your search, send a check for two dollars (the cost of the folio) to: Distribution Division—C44, National Ocean Survey, Riverdale, Maryland 20840. Make your check payable to: NOS, Department of Commerce.

You might also request a copy of Nautical Chart Catalog—United States Atlantic and Gulf Coasts Including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. It describes and lists all the charts available from Maine to Texas, and is free.

CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

TOURNAMENT LIST

I would appreciate, if at all possible, a listing of 1974 fishing tournaments: their dates, locations, etc.; or else the names of other references who might have such information. George S. Keenan, Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Contests and tournaments of interest to local anglers are periodically printed in The Fisherman. This information is submitted to us by local clubs and other promoters of these affairs.

Two contests open to the general public in this area are sponsored by the Schaefer Brewing Company and the Long Island State Park Commission. You might try contacting them for their regulations.

Earlier this year, at the request of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club, we announced that we would prepare a special list of tournaments for inter-club competitions; the response was virtually nil. As a result, we are not actively pursuing this area other than by publishing the information we receive. Those that are interested may take advantage of it.

Offhand, we are not aware of any central clearing house for the type of information you are seeking.

1974 STRIPER & BLUEFISH DERBY

Attention all striped bass and bluefish fans! The Massachusetts Striped Bass Association is running a $600 Striper and Bluefish Derby this year from March 1st to November 30th.

For free entry forms and contest rules, write to Massachusetts Striped Bass Association, P.O. Box 11, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169.

FREEPORT

A twelve-lesson course starts on May 28 at 8 P.M. at Cow Meadow Park, Freeport. Cow Meadow Park is easily reached; South Main Street in Freeport dead-ends at the park. Registration is held during the first two lessons.

A certificate of proficiency is awarded by the Coast Guard to all who pass the final examination. The course instruction by Flotilla 13-7 is given free; there is a nominal charge for material and textbooks. For further information contact Mr. Stanley Samet, evenings, at 694-6745.

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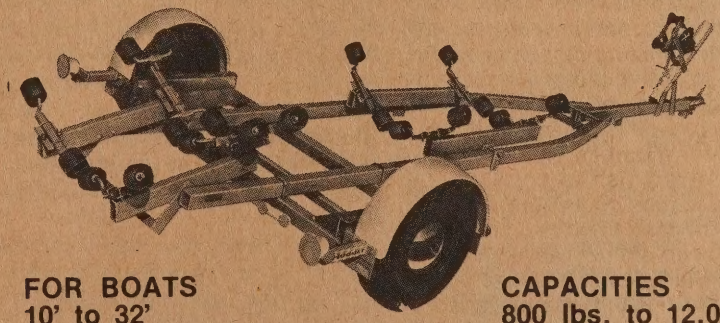

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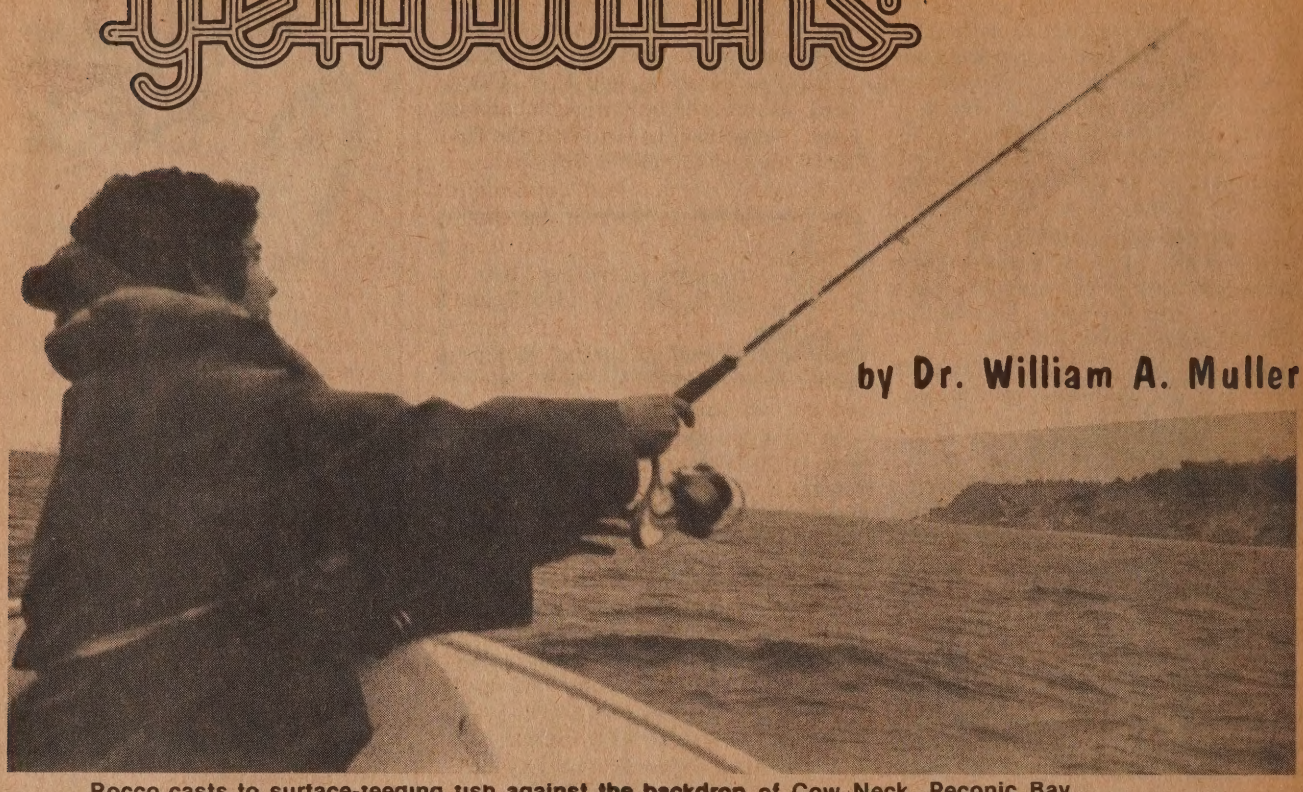


Rocco casts to surface-feeding fish against the backdrop of Cow Neck, Peconic Bay.

It would have been hard to design a worse spring day if one intended to do so. The cold, wind, rain were bad enough but the absence of the weakfish was becoming too much to accept. The fish were there, I knew it! We had had consistently good catches for over a week now.

Two days before, with Cliff Bogin and his son Ricky, we'd found a school of fish in the three to six pound range that we worked over for several hours. I repeated this to Rocco at each drop, but with each telling he seemed less impressed.

Finally, mercifully, the tide went slack. I hoped that when the tide began to ebb the fish might get hungry. I cruised the area with the depth finder flickering and, from time to time, I saw the tell-tale intermittent flashes revealing schools of densely packed weakfish.

A strong reading in about twenty feet of water in the south race of Robin's Island, just as the tide started ebbing, was worth a try. We cast small plastic shrimp lures, let them settle and began an erratic retrieve. The choppy sea prevented us from standing while casting, which hindered our ability to work the lures in the accustomed manner.

Suddenly, Rocco let out a whoop! He was into a good fish that peeled line easily from his reel. I watched him struggle and I chuckled out loud. What's that about he who laughs last...?

A yellowfin clobbered my shrimp and my laughter turned to concentration. I tried to gain control of the rampaging fish while Rocco boated his. The ultra-light spinning outfit I was using was no match for this fish and I soon found myself handcuffed by the tiderunner!

I thrust my rod into the water as the fish charged under the boat. Now what! The fish had surfaced on the other side of the boat and I was stuck with my rod under the hull at the middle of the small craft.

Rocco didn't wait for explanations, directions, or expletives. He took the landing net and, with a single swipe, boated a beautiful eight pound weak.

We caught fish after fish, none less than four pounds, before the school moved on. At the height of the action well over 40 boats worked over a few acres of productive water.

Weakfish have many local names including squet, sea trout, weaks and weakie, and those that arrive in Long Island waters in May to spawn are called tide runners or yellowfins.

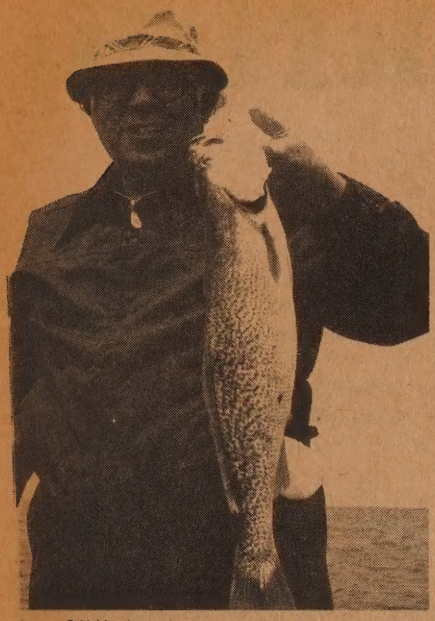
The ventral and anal fins are bright yellow to ruddy orange against the silvery white stomach. The size of these spawning fish can range from about two pounds to upwards of ten pounds or more. However, only the larger of the fish qualify as tiderunners.

Few really huge weaks—12 to 20 pounds—are caught by anglers, although they really do exist. The all tackle record specimen of *Cynoscion regalis* was taken near Trinidad, West Indies, and weighted 19 pounds 8 ounces. However, a thirty pound weakfish was taken commercially many years ago.

Depending upon the weather, the vanguard of the yellowfins begins to filter into Long Island waters in mid-to late-April, but few are caught on hook and line. Some weaks are taken in the Shinnecock Canal in April, but by the time these fish spread into Peconic Bay they're too dispersed to permit the fast fishing that is characteristic of May and June.

By mid-May the run is on in earnest and the boats—private, rental, and party—abound in the shallow waters of Peconic and Great South Bays, weekdays as well as weekends.

It is difficult to predict exactly where the heaviest concentration of fish will be because the amount and type of bait varies from year to year. In 1972, most



Dr. Cliff Bogin proudly hoists his first yellowfin of the young season.

of the fish were taken on squid-baited high leader rigs, whereas in 1973 plastic shrimp were devastating in Peconic as well as other areas. This year the plastic shrimp are again working miracles on weakfish in most areas, but in Peconic the fish seem to be gathered in the deep waters east of Robins' Island; here, squid-baited hooks seem to be cornering the lion's share of the action.

I recently checked this out with boat livery men in the area. Phil Loria of Captain Marty's fishing station confirmed that squid was the ticket. He also urged his customers to fish south of Nassau Point and to line up the red buoy with the white house. The action in this area has been consistent for several weeks.

In Great South Bay the area around buoy 4 off Heckscher State Park has produced some very large fish. As of this writing, few weaks have been taken in the Sound.

The quality and the quantity of the action reflects the change in the composition of the fish's fodder. This year there seem to be more squid in the Peconics as compared to recent years. The squid tend to concentrate in the deep water access portions of the bay, and weakfish are right there to take advantage. If you should catch a small, strange-looking brown thing while weakfishing, don't throw it away. It's probably a squid, and fresh squid is preferred by big tiderunners.

If squid is in short supply the weaks feed on anything from shrimp to spearing, so keep an educated eye peeled for signs of surface-feeding fish.

In most locations the season for peak fishing is short. The best of it lasts less than four weeks and the largest fish usually arrive about mid-May. During peak fishing, the only trick to catching a mess of yellowfins is to find the right locations and exercise a little patience.

Weakfish do not feed continuously and the angler has to wait out the dry spells. Fishing is usually poor during slack water and best during the first few hours of the changing tide. Decades ago, during the great runs of the thirties and forties, the prescribed technique called for a squid-baited high leader rig which was worked with a light touch during long drifts, or while anchored and with several quarts of grass shrimp dispensed as chum.

Chumming for weakfish is cumbersome and time-consuming, and is really not necessary today. Catching the yellowfins on plastic shrimp gives you more exercise, allows for lighter tackle, and permits the fish to put up a better account of itself unencumbered by the high leader set-up.

Later in the season, when small fish are the rule, leadered hook and sinker seems to produce more fish than the shrimp. However, spring run or summer there are a few tricks that you might want to keep in the back of your head in case the fishing slows to a crawl.

First, weaks are zonal feeders. That is, once they find the bait at a certain depth and begin feeding they usually will not move more than a few feet up or down to chase a bait. Therefore, try tying another 3/0 short shank hook just above the sinker, and use a leader that is at least four feet long. Bait this hook with squid, spearing, sand eel, or sea worm.

Second, try adding a few extra ounces of lead and slow-troll through a potentially productive area. You should troll in circles, with each circle being larger than the one before. When the circle becomes about ½ mile in diameter you should move on if you have not had any action. Trolling has the advantage of allowing the angler to cover much more territory, which is particularly important when the fish temporarily go off their feed.

It is impossible to say how many more years the weakfish will be plentiful before the fishery collapses again. The species is cyclically abundant, and we seem to be riding the crest right now. I believe that we can help prevent the kind of disaster that we witnessed in the

(Continued on page 33.)

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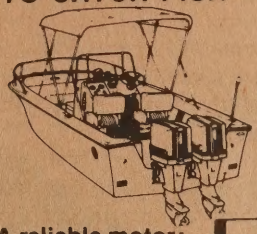

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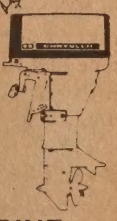

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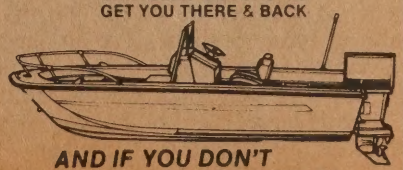


AND IF YOU DON'T CATCH ANY, TRY GOLF!

•Spring Blackfish•

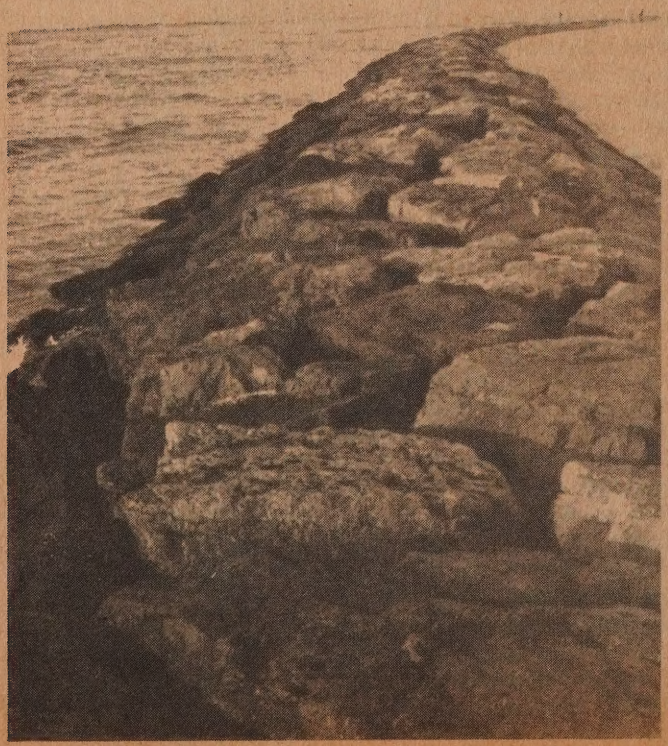
by Matt Ahern

To be a consistently succesful fisherman, all fish require of the angler a certain degree of skill; some fish demand more than others. But the pugnacious blackfish, by being unusually strong and tricky, is in a class by himself. Here is a fish guaranteed to lift the sinker bouncer out of the doldrums of winter.

Most fishermen will agree the successful blackfisherman possesses skills that usually put him a notch above most bottom fishermen. That these skills were attained by matching wits over the years with this wily bottom feeder goes without saying. Some blackfishermen think so highly of the blackfish, they personally consider them in the game fish category.

The coastal range of the blackfish is fairly extensive, running from Nova Scotia to the Virginia Capes. They aren't a migratory fish, such as cod and mackerel, but it has been established they do have definite inshore and offshore movements, governed by water temperature. North of Long Island, blacks are found inshore all summer long.

Blackfish, and that bane of all blackfishermen, the bergall, are members of the colorful wrasse family of southern waters. These are the brilliantly colored fish usually seen on TV in exotic reef settings. Our blackfish shares none of these beautiful colors, but the bergall does make an attempt by displaying various shades of red, green, and yellow.



Good underwater structure such as rocks, piers...

Actually, the blackfish's coloration is camouflage. In males the colors vary from black to gray, and to a mottled brown in females and young fish. The males also have a noticeable white chin, by which name they are known around the Virginia Capes.

The fisherman can't mistake a black, as his short, muscular body is shared by no other local fish. This body is perfectly suited for living around rocks, wreckage and other cluttered areas. The skin is slippery and tough, as any fisherman who has attempted to scale one can tell you. All in all, he is well-equipped for the life he leads.

The average spring blackfish caught will weigh around two pounds, although fish much larger can be expected in a good day's fishing; many eight to ten pounders are caught each spring. The U.S. National Museum in Washington has a commercially-caught black weighing over 22 pounds which was taken in 1876 in New York Harbor, and many blacks close to this weight have been taken over the years—especially in Rhode Island waters and around Montauk.

Although blackfish may be rough and ready, willing to do battle with all fishermen, they are extremely sensitive to sudden fluctuations in water temperature, and will perish if trapped in shallow areas during a sudden cold snap. Nor can they tolerate warm water, and during summer only a few blacks are caught inshore; these are usually small.

The blackfish has long been known as the tackle dealer's delight, and with good reason: blackfish are found wherever obstructions abound. Reefs, wreckage, rock piles, ledges, and pilings around old, decaying piers and wharves all have their share of blacks. These places offer secluded caves and crevices needed for protection and food. Probably more terminal tackle has been lost while black-fishing than any other way. If you don't become "hung up" occasionally, you aren't fishing in the right spot, so be sure to carry plenty of extra tackle when blackfishing.

The black, being a rugged, powerful fish, requires the angler to utilize sturdy tackle to keep the odds a bit even: this is one bottom fish well-able to best the fisherman if given half a chance. Medium weight spinning tackle can be used in shallow water, but I believe, for all-around blackfishing, a sturdy rod and conventional reel filled with 20 to 30 pound test mono to be a better choice. Bank sinkers are preferred, and will range from two to eight ounces depending on depth and tide.

Rigging for blackfish is simple. As the black is a bottom feeder, your hooks must be there. Seldom will blacks come off the sea floor for food. (They can be chummed to the surface like weakfish, of which more later.)

The best hook is a number 4 or 6 Virginia, which was developed for blackfishing. This type hook has an offset point, enabling it to be firmly implanted in the black's small, tough jaw. Hooks should be tied tandem, which is done by tying the snell of one hook to the center of the other. Finish this off with a simple overhand knot to secure.

Fortunately for the fisherman, blackfish will take a variety of baits. His thick, rubber-like lips and protruding teeth

enable him to easily nip barnacles, mussels, and crabs from their moorings. This is what the fisherman should keep in mind when selecting his offering. Anything that has, or ever had, a shell around it, is fair game to a black.

Some blackfishermen feel that spring blacks should be offered only soft food, such as worms and clams, claiming the black's mouth is tender at this time of year. Whether this is so, I don't know, but from my own experience there seems to be merit to their belief.

Although skimmer clam is seldom refused in spring, some fishermen use nothing but sandworm. The selection is yours, but if bergalls are thick, I'd stick to the baits most often used in fall, such as fiddlers and green crab.

If fiddlers are used, they should be the shiny China-backs, not the common black mud fiddlers. These are put on whole by removing one of the claws and inserting the hook. Green crabs must have their top shell and legs removed and then cut into two or more pieces, depending on size. The hook is then placed through the side, with the point being allowed to barely protrude.

...bridges and wrecks offer Long Islanders good blackfishing.

Conch is an excellent bait when bergalls are bothersome. Remove from shell, flatten with a mallet, trim off black skin, and cut into thin pieces about 1½-inches long. Another good bait is small soft clams—if they can be obtained. It is a good idea to first crack the shell lightly before putting the hook through. This will hold back the bergall long enough to allow any cruising blacks to look it over.

Many fishermen who first encounter blackfish have difficulty setting the hook. This is because the black attacks bait in two distinct ways. First to be felt is a series of short, rapid nips, then a pause. During the pause the bait is being passed back to a second set of teeth known as crushers. Should you strike before this happens, you are most apt to miss the fish entirely. As the bait is passed back, the black will give a strong tug as he feels the hook: Now is the time to drive it home.

The sturdy backbone of the rod you should be using is needed now to keep the fish from getting back to the safety of rocks or wreckage. Should you allow this to happen, you are very apt to become hung up, possibly losing both fish and terminal tackle. You must hold him away at all costs, and this is not as easy as it seems, for the downward surge of even a small black is surprisingly powerful. If the black is large, it may take sheer strength—hence the reason for all tackle to be on the heavy side.

Blackfish can be chummed to the surface if the fisherman will keep two things in mind. First: the water must be shallow, no more than fifteen feet, for best results. Secondly: there must be very little tide or current, otherwise the chum will be carried away too far to do much good.

The best bait for chumming is the same as for weakfish: grass shrimp. But this bait is hard to come by, so a good substitute is clams that have been run through a grinder. They must be minced very fine. Should the pieces be too heavy, they will sink, failing their purpose.

For this kind of fishing you should modify your tackle by using a lighter rod and line. Bait with larger pieces of the chum, and let it down to the level at which the fish are feeding. Be prepared by having a good grip on your rod, for, when you sink the hook, the black will give a lively few minutes you never thought possible. You will find out instantly why the black is considered a game fish.

Blackfish should always be skinned, never scaled, as the scales are deeply imbedded in the skin. Just slice across body from head to vent, cut along dorsal fin the length of the back to tail, then along underside to vent. Peel back a small portion of skin at the shoulder, and with the aid of rags or tissues, pull quickly, holding on head. Repeat on other side. Blackfish skin easily.

Not only are blackfish fun to catch, but they make delicious eating, having a slight clam-like taste. They can be stuffed and baked, or turned into mouth-watering filets. Some fishermen use the filets in place of lobster for salad. They immerse filets in water, heat to slightly below boiling. The fish are then removed and allowed to cool. I know one fisherman who defies anyone to tell the difference.

Over 100 years ago, local fishermen thought so highly of the blackfish, they cheerfully sent a boatload to Virginia. These Virginia anglers have not only developed blackfishing into a fine art, they have been grateful ever since.

Go blackfishing this spring and find out why.

Blacks are tackle-busters that offer a scrappy fight.

Bay Bum: Safety First

by Tom Franza

Safety and first aid go together like sand bars and high tide. If you are not careful enough about the one, you will soon be in need of the other.

There are two words that every boat man should remember, that apply to his safety as well as the safety of others. This is also the key phrase in case the time ever comes that he has to administer first aid. The two words I am talking about are "common sense." If you don't do anything foolish and don't take unnecessary chances, you are not going to get into trouble. And, if anyone else is in trouble, you will be able to help them—if you don't panic.

Safety is concerned with the prevention of the loss of life, the prevention of injury, and the prevention of the loss of property. It is safety that helps to guarantee a more enjoyable day on the water, as well as a more relaxing one.

Since I am a bay bum at heart, most of the rules here will be primarily intended for the bay. Do not be fooled by terminology, however; a true bay bum, contrary to what that name may imply, is thoroughly safety conscious.

Although the Coast Guard requires that there be an approved life preserver readily available for each person on board, this is not enough. All small children should be outfitted with the proper type and size life preserver. An adult size on an infant does no good in an emergency if the child slips through and out. Nor are cushion-type preservers adequate for a youngster. A good preserver is the type that straps on so that the child will not become separated from it, should he panic. It must also provide adequate support to keep the head clear of the water at all times.

Young children who have not yet learned to swim should wear their preservers constantly. It is a good idea to put it on the youngster while still at the car when loading the boat in the morning, and not take it off until the car has been repacked and you are on your way home at the end of the day. These two times, the loading and the unloading, are among the most confusing, and it is at these moments that a curious youngster can readily slip away. Remember, they don't make much of a splash when they fall in.

When anchored in shallow water, get your children used to being in the water supported only by their life preservers. They will quickly become accustomed to them and learn to have faith in them. Should they suddenly find themselves overboard some day, it might also help to keep them from panicking, since the experience will not be a totally strange one. This could help them avoid swallowing large amounts of water.

While we are on the subject of being overboard, it is a good idea to have "man-overboard" drills with the members of your usual "crew" (wife, kids, etc.). Should an emergency arise, you will find yourself with a crew who knows what to do. You as the captain should immediately take the wheel and assume all responsibility for issuing all commands. You cannot work successfully with everybody shouting orders or jumping overboard to "help."

If a person should fall from your boat, remember that boats steer from the rear. For this reason you should turn into the direction from which the person has fallen. If you turn the bow away from him, you will, in effect, only be swinging the stern—with its whirling propeller—directly over him. (See Figure 1). As an added precaution, throw the engines into neutral.

One person should be assigned the task of readying a flotation device on the end of a line. This may then be thrown to the person in the water and be used to haul him back to the boat. This individual should also be responsible for making ready a boat hook for reaching and a boarding ladder to facilitate rescue. Someone else should keep an eye—at all times—on whomever it was that fell overboard. His job is to direct you, should you lose sight of the victim.

Notice, I have not yet said anything about anyone jumping overboard. That is to be used only as a last resort. Very often, when someone jumps overboard to help, you end up with having two people to rescue.

One final word while on the subject of life saving and life preservers. No matter how good a swimmer you are, you should never be too "embarrassed" to put on your life preserver when weather or other conditions warrant. If your boat should capsize, or should you be thrown into the water, that life preserver will save your life if you get knocked unconscious. (*U.S. Coast Guard Approved Type II*). Oh, yes. Be careful that the straps, whether on the Mae Wests or on the cushions, have not become frayed or torn. A parted strap can make a life preserver useless.

One of the things that gripes me the most is the behavior of the nuts who speed through "no-wake" areas. Besides showing their gross inconsideration for others, they also cause damage to boats by creating waves which slam

APPROACHING A MAN OVERBOARD

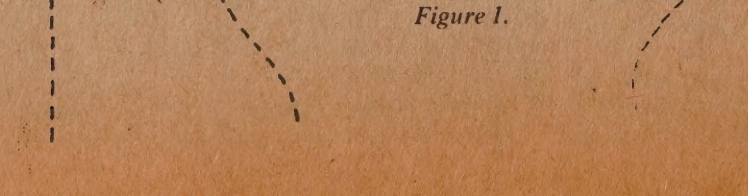


Figure 1.

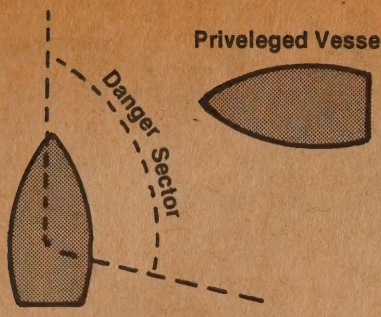


Figure 2.

RIGHT OF WAY

the boats against their moorings. My own boat was less than twenty-four hours old when it sustained its first damage. It was caused by some fool going through the marina at about 2400 RPM and slamming my boat into an unprotected beam at the gas dock. The damage was negligible, but it felt as if he had wounded me personally. Remember, according to the law, you are responsible for whatever damage your wake may cause.

Another thing that galls the daylights out of me, and probably causes more near accidents than anything else on the bay, is the failure of one boat to yield to another boat in its danger sector. (See Fig. 2) Always remember that the boat approaching you from the starboard side has the right of way. (That's your right side, for all you Sunday Sailors.) The only time this rule does not necessarily apply is in the case of sailboats. As a general rule, a boat under sail (which is far less maneuverable) has the right of way over a boat under power.

Perhaps the greatest threat to safety on the bay is the same threat as on the highways—alcohol. People under the influence of alcohol do a lot of foolish and dangerous things. I once saw a guy in a large cabin cruiser drifting sideways, without his engines running, down one of the creeks that lead to the ferry slips in the Bay Shore Marina. This occurred at the height of the Sunday afternoon rush hour. He was drunk out of his skull, swearing like a trooper, and causing more near accidents than I care to count.

Another problem is the people who tie up at the "weekend-marinas" on Fire Island and allow their kids to run wild while they party. These kids go zipping around at full throttle in their dinghies, having chicken races and scaring the hell out of anybody who happens to be in their way. While they are doing this their younger brothers and sisters are running back and forth along the docks like little maniacs, fishing poles and hooks swinging freely in other people's faces, while Mom and Dad keep drinking away.

I have nothing against drinking and am not some kind of temperance nut. What I am trying to say is if you are going to be a parent and a boat owner, it requires a certain sense of responsibility. If you are going to shirk this responsibility, you don't belong on the water, and you certainly don't deserve to have kids.

When you are cruising along on the bay, do not allow anyone to ride up on the bow of your boat. Besides now being illegal, it is downright dangerous. If that bow rail should ever give way, or if the rider is knocked off when you cross a wake, he will be overboard and possibly chopped up by your propellor before you even have time to react. There is not much you can do for somebody who has been chewed up by a prop.

Another thing is to keep a sharp lookout for a diver's flag. This is a red flag with a diagonal white stripe. It tells you someone is down below. Yet another small target that sometimes remains unseen until it is too late is the guy who is standing in about three feet of water, on a bar about 200 yards off the beach, and clamming. Sometimes it is almost impossible to see him if you are not paying strict attention to where you are going.

Very often, the guy who isn't paying attention to where he is going is the same guy who overloads his boat. Remember that overloading of a boat reduces its freeboard (the minimum height of the sides of the boat above the water line). In addition, overloading can upset the trim of the boat if there is a rapid shift in weight. These two can quickly cause a boat to capsize, even if it is a large one.

A good way to determine the maximum number of passengers your boat can safely hold is to multiply the overall length of the boat by its maximum beam. Then divide by 15 and you will arrive at the largest number of passengers that you can carry. For example, a 21 foot boat with an 8 foot beam can carry a **maximum** of 11 passengers.

$$\frac{21 \times 8}{15} = 11.$$

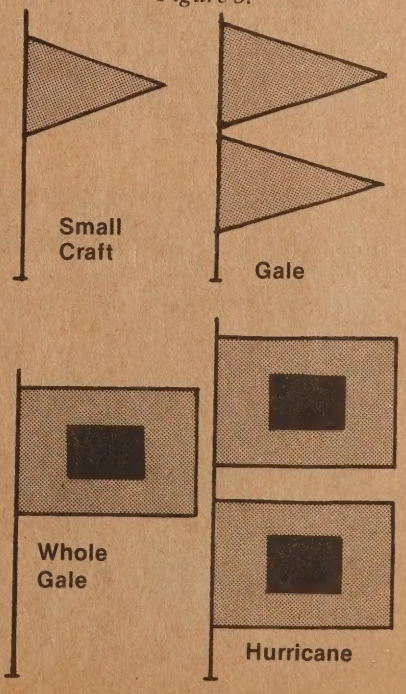
One of the best ways to avoid getting into trouble is to keep an eye on the weather and to pay attention to storm warnings. Storm warnings are displayed by flags flown at Coast Guard Stations, various yacht clubs and other disignated locations (See Figure 3). It is the height of folly to go out when the weather is against you or when you think it might turn. It is never worth the risk.

Perhaps the best advice of all that can be offered to the bay boater is to avail himself of a Coast Guard Auxiliary Courtesy Inspection at the beginning of each season. He will be advised of any safety shortcomings which his boat might possess, but he will not be penalized for them. It is a good chance to see if his boat comes up to snuff. If it does pass muster, a sticker will be placed on the craft, signifying that it has met with all safety regulations.

If you follow these pointers, and always remember to use your common sense, you should have a trouble free season—at least from the safety angle. Now all you have to do is keep your boat engines running smoothly and try to convince your wife to let you go out fishing alone. Good luck!

(Coming next—Don't Bum Around When It Comes to First Aid)

Figure 3.



COAST GUARD WEATHER WARNINGS

CLEANING BLACKFISH: Nothing To It.

by Bruce Sucher

There are many ways to skin a cat, but there's only one way to skin a blackfish. As hard as these fish are to hook and land, that's how hard it is to clean them if you don't know what you're doing. I know, because I've made the various blunders that led me to this simple and efficient way.

The flesh of the blackfish is firm and white. It can be boiled, broiled, baked, sauteed and marinated. It tastes just fine, although some do not like its bland flavor. But then my friend Jack doesn't like shrimp or lobster. Each to his own. Perhaps master Bernard Schwartz, with his culinary expertise, would be so kind as to write "Cooking Blackfish Good?"

STEP #1.
Basic ingredients: A ten pound blackfish, a good sharp knife and a pair of pliers.

STEP #2.
Cut through the skin, following the basic contours of the fish's body. Do not dig the knife in too deeply. Try to come close to the edge of pectoral and anal fins.

STEP #3.

Grasp the edge of the skin with the pliers at the point just above the head. Holding the head with your left hand, start applying steady pressure, pulling back towards the tail. The skin should come off fairly easily with one smooth rip. It sounds a little like tearing cloth. Do the same on the flip side.

STEP #4.

The head and tail are severed and the stomach cavity is cleaned out. The fish is ready for the pot.

STEP #5.

The fins are still connected to the tail by a ribbon of skin. Cut the skin near the base of the fins. With the pliers grasp the fin at the tail end. Pulling away from the fish they should come away in one long strip. If a few fin bones are left don't worry, just grasp them with the pliers and pull 'em out. Nothing to it.

Your Fish And The Taxidermist

by Peter J. Frederiksen

During an angler's career, there is usually one fish which stands out for its supreme battle. The dolphin that gives your light saltwater fly outfit (and your heart) thirty minutes of screeching and bending fits. The striped bass that warms the chilly fall water in your waders on a brisk October night. Perhaps it will be a blue marlin taken from the Gulf Stream on your Florida vacation that etches a spot in your salty memory. But regardless of where the fish is captured, having it mounted is the most permanent way to re-live the event, time after pleasurable time.

While taxidermists are spread out in the New Jersey-New York area, your trip to Florida will find you in the backyard of Al Pflueger and J.T. Reese, the two largest marine taxidermists in the world. So, if you decide to mount that sailfish or barracuda you just caught, arrangements can be provided quickly and easily.

Agents are readily available at most of the boat docks, and, in many instances, the charter or party boat captain can take care of all the details for you. Once you have informed the agent or captain that you desire to have the fish mounted, measurements of the fish are taken and the order written up. A deposit is required and the agent will hand you a receipt. Shipping the fish to the taxidermist is handled by the agent, who will insure that proper identification accompanies the specimen. The fish will arrive at the taxidermist in fine condition and work on the mount will commence as soon as possible.

Before work begins, however, confirmation of the order is requested with an additional payment. This payment, coupled with the deposit, totals in the neighborhood of 50% of the completed mount price. A notice is sent out, when the fish is in the final stages, with a statement for the balance, or, in some cases, the mount can be shipped C.O.D.

It is difficult to determine the exact amount of time a fish will require to be mounted. Average sized sailfish, dolphin, amberjacks, barracudas and the like can take a few months, but this depends upon such things as how easily the fish is processed and how prompt the customer is to confirmation and billing.

Large billfish, sharks and tarpon can take much longer because the processing is often more complicated. Naturally, the better taxidermists need a substantial amount of time because of the large volume of mounts to be processed, each requiring individual attention. Taxidermy is a skilled art and, when each fish is handled individually rather than on a mass basis, it takes a good deal of time.

Quality is another factor. The taxidermist is simply not going to skin the fish, stretch it over a paper-mache or fiberglass body, paint it and ship it to you. The skin must be properly prepared, which in itself can take more than a month. This procedure cannot be rushed.

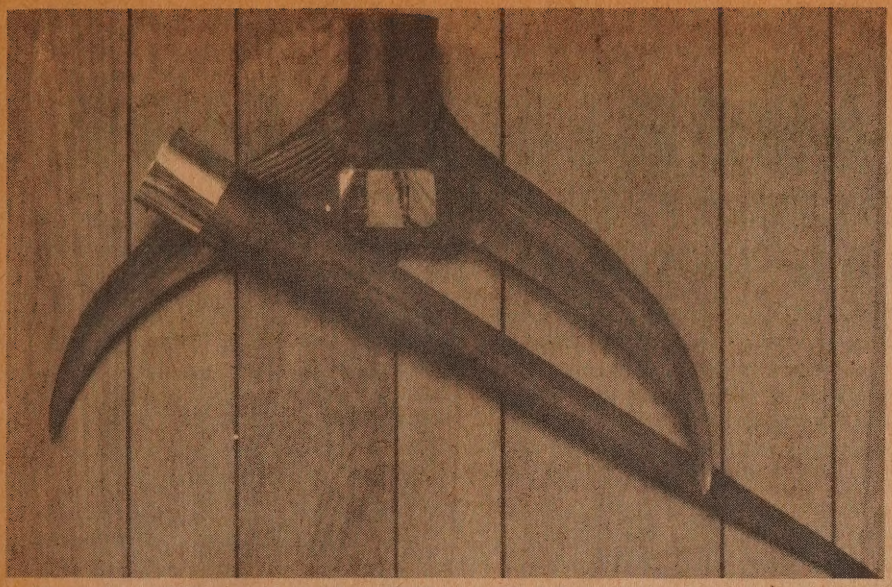
Painting the mount is another complex process which can use some explaining. The fish is painted to represent the colors of a live specimen. The angler must remember that he sees his fish just before it dies, and the coloration is rapidly changing at this moment, particularly with dolphin, wahoo, marlin or sailfish. Colors can vary from one location to another and from fish to fish, so if you have specific color requests, jot them down when the order is being written up. Otherwise, the fish will be painted to a standard form.

The fish mount can be the actual preserved and painted skin, stretched over a molded body or a fiberglass replica of the real fish. However, even the true skin mount will need a little help, especially with the dorsal fin of marlin and sailfish. To avoid possible deterioration with age, these fins will be artificially produced. Either mount will last indefinitely—provided it is not abused or placed where temperatures fluctuate to extremes. Occasionally wiping with a soft dust cloth is the only maintenance needed to maintain the mount's lively looking wet appearance..

A whole mount is not cheap; it is a good idea to get an approximate over-all price before you send off the fish with a deposit. Also make note of whether the crating charge is included in the price, or be prepared for an additional expense.

Billfish provide the option of having the bill and/or tail mounted in lieu of the entire fish, and are particularly attractive if wall space is at a premium. Bill and tail mounts are substantially less expensive than a full mount.

Should you desire a trophy mount but are unable to catch a suitable fish, you should check with the taxidermist. There are always mounts for sale. These are perfect mounts of various fish which have never been claimed by their owners for one reason or another. It is certainly a practical thing to do. Some sportsmen release their trophy fish and purchase a mount to commemorate the event. The most appealing aspect of this is that there is little if any waiting for



The tail and bill mount of a broadbill swordfish is perfect when space is at a premium.

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the mount to be delivered.

I suppose there are those who feel to mount a fish is wrong or wasteful, but I cannot agree. In many areas of Florida, anglers are encouraged to release their sailfish or boat them for the specific purpose of mounting. If mounting were detrimental to conservation, I honestly feel each Chamber of Commerce would request that every sail capable of recovering should be released.

I also believe that a mounted fish makes one realize the true value of it. Perhaps if we all had a bluefish mount on our walls; we would not so greedy to fill our bags, boxes and garbage pails when a healthy run was in progress. So, if you land that prize, you may want to entertain the thought of having a mount made. It will take a while before the fish is returned and will cost some money, but that gleaming mount will out-shine a thousand pictures anyday.

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Shark Identification

by Robert H. Schaefer

PART ONE: The Game Fish Sharks

Shark fishing for sport has been gaining popularity in the past few years. Once despised by sport fishermen, these feared animals are now receiving attention in many publications. While there is not much chance of mistaking a shark for any other kind of fish, the visual difference between species of sharks can be subtle and the eye has to be trained to detect the distinctive indentifying features.

Have you landed a mako or a porbeagle, or even a legendary white shark? Did you know which was which? They're a lot alike because they're all members of the same family. But there are also key differences, and that's what makes each species unique. The International Game Fish Association recognizes six species of sharks. Part I of Shark Identification will concentrate on describing the key features of each of these six. Part II will deal with the non-game fish sharks you'll be likely to find in our waters.

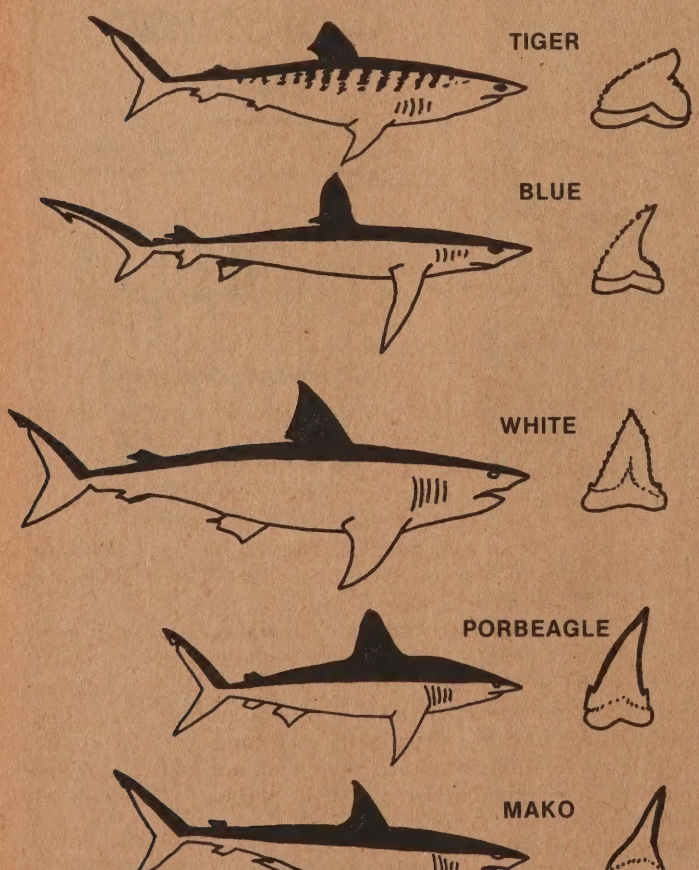

Figure 1.

To start with, let's clear the air about the use of words like class, order, family, and so on. These terms are really of importance only to biologists, but here is a quick run-down on why they are necessary and how they are used.

For purposes of identification, all living organisms are described by placing them into various categories according to certain characteristics. Each subsequent category more specifically defines that organism. In order to describe and identify, for instance, the mako shark, the following categories would be used:

Kingdom—Animal (all animals are included in this category)
Phylum—*Chordata* (only animals which have at some stage in their development a notocord, gill slits, and a dorsal tubular nerve cord)
Super-class—*Pisces* (only *Chordata* that are aquatic, cold blooded, and that breathe chiefly by their gills)
Class—*Chondrichthyes* (only *Pisces* with skeletons of cartilage)
Order—*Selachii* (only *Chondrichthyses* that have free eye lids, at least partly lateral gill openings, and pectoral fins not attached to the side of the head)
Family—*Isuridae* (family characteristics described in detail below)
Genus-species—*Isurus oxyrinchus* (scientific name with additional identifying characteristics)
Common name—Mako

This scheme was developed after many years of confusion, in part caused by different regional or local names being given to the same animal. (A similar schema exists for plants.) Because many species of sharks are known by more than one name, the scientific name is provided in parenthesis and italicized. All sharks are members of the class, *Chondrichthyes*, which distinguishes them from the bony fish by their skeletons, which are entirely cartilaginous. Because skates and rays have cartilaginous skeletons, they are also members of this class, but are placed in a separate order, *Batoidei*.

The shark order, *Selachii*, is composed of at least ten families which contain more than 200 species, of which the mako is just one. Identification of a specimen can be confusing because individual species are grouped together in a family due to their general anatomical similarities.

Figure 1 shows the profile of each game fish shark so the more prominent anatomical characteristics can be compared. Also shown are sketches of each species' teeth. (More about teeth later.) Refer to these drawings as you read the descriptions below. Figure 2 provides a guide to the nomenclature used for various fins and other parts of the shark.

Requiem Sharks— family *Carcharhinidae*.

Physical characteristics of this family include: sharp, saw-edged teeth; eyes with winking (or nictitating) membranes; last gill opening above base of pectorals; first dorsal fin entirely in front of pelvics; second dorsal directly above anal fin; second dorsal and anal fin approximately same size.

Two members of this family are recognized by the IGFA. They are:

Tiger Shark—(*Galeocerdo cuvier*)

This shark gets its name from the tiger stripes which reach down its sides to the almost yellow colored belly. The tiger has a large head which is particularly flat on top, with a short, rounded or blunted snout. It has spiracles (See Figure 2) just behind the eyes. The mouth is broad and goes rearward past its eyes. The upper jaw has long grooves. The first dorsal is high and is almost the same size as the pectorals. The second dorsal is between ⅓ and ¼ the size of the first. The upper lobe of the caudal fin (the top of which is noticeably rounded) is about 3 times the length of the lower lobe (which is rather pointed). In size, the tiger goes to 18 feet. The all tackle record is 1422 pounds.

Blue Shark—(*Prionace glauca*)

There isn't much chance of confusing a blue with a tiger due to the dramatic differences in color and pattern. However, as they are both members of the same family, some physical differences should be noted.

The blue's first dorsal fin is nearer his pelvic fins than to the pectorals. The pectorals themselves are narrow, very long, and curved. The body is thinner than that of the tiger and, consequently, a blue the same length as a tiger will weigh less. The blue also has a much longer snout than the tiger. The upper lobe of the caudal fin is not as rigid as, for instance, a mako. It is more "floppy", to the extent of being noticeable when they cruise on the surface. And, when one is on the surface, you'll also notice his long, slender body, long pectoral fins, and a unique snaking motion as he swims.

The blue is characterized by a bright blue color on his back and upper sides, with pure white on the lower sides and belly. The extremities of the pectoral fins and nose may show some white color. Shark experts say this is an indication of old age. The size of the blue has been reliably recorded at 12 feet 7 inches, although some claims of 15 and even 20 feet have been made. These slender fish weigh only about 170 pounds when their length is 9 feet.

Mackerel Sharks—family *Isuridae*

The mackerel shark family is composed of the porbeagle (also known as the mackerel shark), the mako, and white shark (or maneater). All three are recognized by the IGFA.

Physical characteristics of this family include: large and sharp teeth, last gill opening located ahead of pectorals, caudal fin crescent-shaped with equal or nearly equal-sized lobes.

Porbeagle—(*Lamna nasus*)

The porbeagle ranges in length up to 12 feet, with a weight of 400 pounds. It has a stout body, pointed nose, and large first dorsal fin, as high as it is long. This fin starts slightly behind the pectorals. The porbeagle can easily be distinguished from the white shark by its second dorsal fin being directly above its anal fin. The caudal fin has two distinct longitudinal keels on each side, whereas the mako has only one. The first dorsal of both the porbeagle and mako have more rounded points than does the white, although the base of the porbeagle and white's dorsal fin are broader than the mako.

The porbeagle's color is similar to the mako, i.e., blue along the back and upper sides, but he is darker than the mako, tending toward gray, and is generally a duller shade of blue.

The teeth are narrowly triangular, and some have very small cusps, like tiny teeth, at the base and on each side of the main triangle. The mako does not have these cusps. Also, the porbeagle's teeth are not serrated (saw-toothed) whereas the white's are.

Mako—(*Isurus oxyrinchus*)

The mako also runs up to 12 feet, but will attain weights of about 1000 pounds.

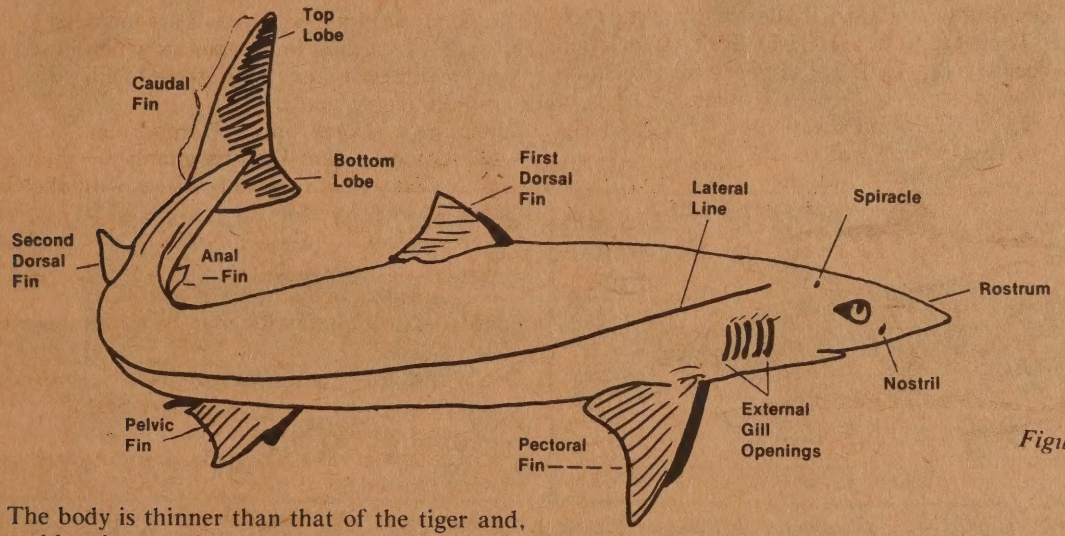

Figure 2.

The first dorsal fin is large and triangular, about as high as it is long. The body is moderately slender. The mako can be distinguished from the porbeagle by the first dorsal starting above, or slightly to the rear of, the pectorals *and* by the second dorsal beginning ahead of the anal fin.

Colors run from rich purplish blue on his back down to lighter shades of blue on the upper sides. Lower sides are silverish blue and the belly is white.

While all sharks have formidable dental equipment, it goes double for the mako. (His Spanish name is *dentuso*, which means "the toothy one".) His teeth do not have serrations, but they do have a particularly sharp cutting edge. The mako's teeth are so prominent and fang-like that some people say he is buck-toothed. The teeth are high and triangular in shape, similar to those of the porbeagle, but without cusps.

White Shark—(*Carcharodon carcharias*)

The official record length is 36 ½ feet (weight not given), and the all tackle record weight is 2664 pounds. This is a big fish, and he is mean. The white has a stout body. His color varies from lead-white or dull white in large fish (over 12 feet), and is darker (beige or grayish blue) in smaller ones. The first dorsal fin begins over the trailing edge of the pectoral fin, and the second dorsal is located entirely ahead of the anal fin.

(Continued on page 31.)

L.I. LARGEMOUTH BASS

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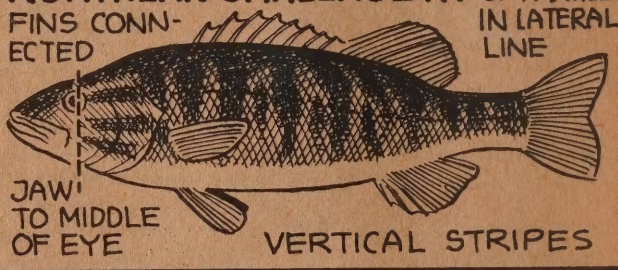
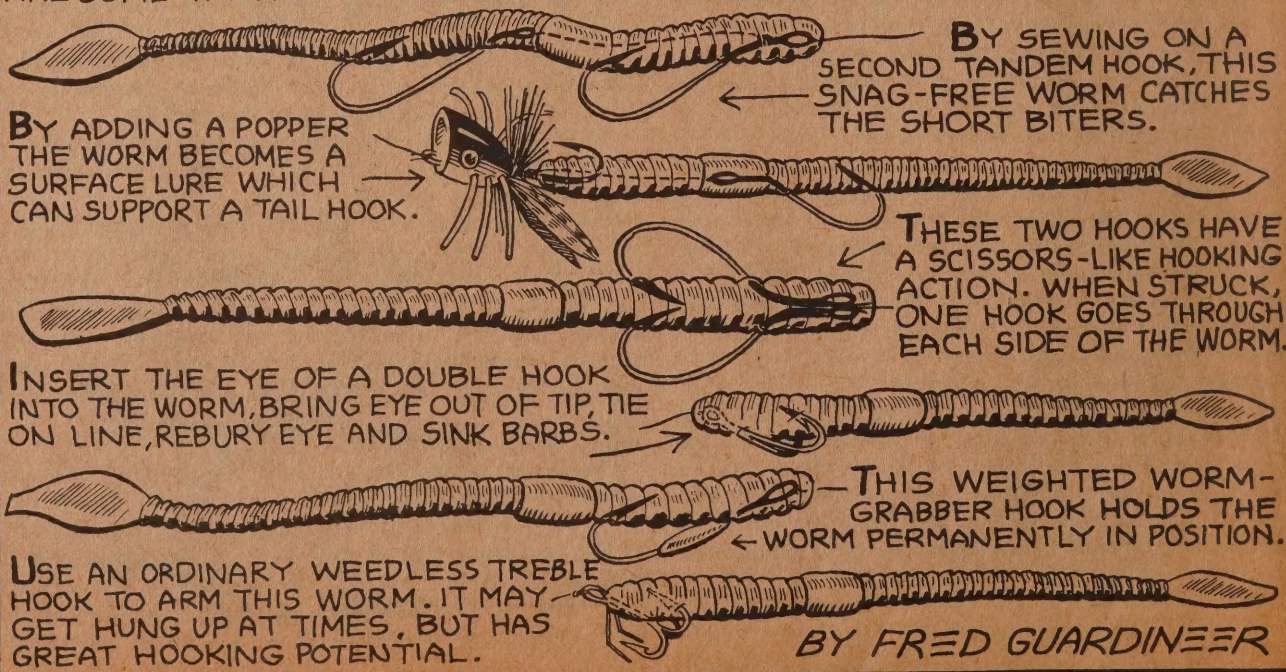
MOST L.I. LAKES,
PONDS AND KETTLE HOLES CONTAIN BASS AND THEY WILL BE LARGEMOUTHS ALTHOUGH SMALLMOUTHS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN SOME OF THE DEEPER ROCKY LAKES.

NORTHERN LARGEMOUTH 59-68 SCALES IN LATERAL LINE

NORTHERN SMALLMOUTH 69-77 SCALES IN LATERAL LINE



PLASTIC WORMS HAVE BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE ON BASS. SHOWN BELOW ARE SOME TRICKS WITH DOUBLE-HOOK AND TREBLE-HOOK INNOVATIONS.


BY SEWING ON A SECOND TANDEM HOOK, THIS SNAG-FREE WORM CATCHES THE SHORT BITERS.
BY ADDING A POPPER THE WORM BECOMES A SURFACE LURE WHICH CAN SUPPORT A TAIL HOOK.
THESE TWO HOOKS HAVE A SCISSORS-LIKE HOOKING ACTION. WHEN STRUCK, ONE HOOK GOES THROUGH EACH SIDE OF THE WORM.
INSERT THE EYE OF A DOUBLE HOOK INTO THE WORM, BRING EYE OUT OF TIP, TIE ON LINE, REBURY EYE AND SINK BARBS.
THIS WEIGHTED WORM-GRABBER HOOK HOLDS THE WORM PERMANENTLY IN POSITION.
USE AN ORDINARY WEEDLESS TREBLE HOOK TO ARM THIS WORM. IT MAY GET HUNG UP AT TIMES, BUT HAS GREAT HOOKING POTENTIAL.

BY FRED GUARDINEER

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

The Viking Star has been fishing Coxes Ledge during the week while on the weekend he had a special wreck trip. "Pretty good during the week, fantastic Saturday and a lot of big 40, 50 and 60 pound cod on Sunday." This was told to us by Mrs. Forsberg. Jinny Mulhern had a 60 pound cod on Monday caught at Coxes Ledge.

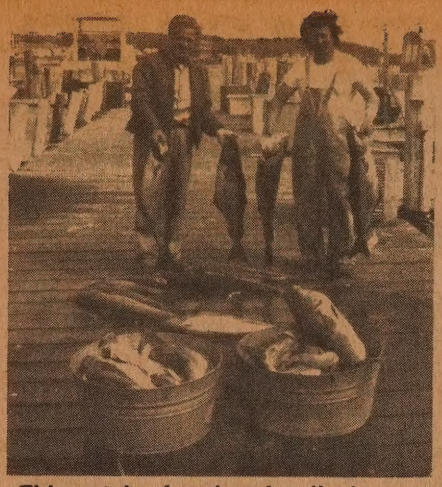
Capt. P. Sundberg of the charter boat **Montauk** has been fishing the Southwest Ledge where his fares have picked up cod, pollack and blackfish. The cod are spring run cod while the blackfish are an estimated weight of over eight pounds.

The **Sea Witch II** captained by Charles Nappi had over 1,000 pounds of cod fishing Coxes Ledge, 12 of these went over 35 35 pounds. On the way back from one trip Capt. Nappi trolled with umbrella rigs at the Elbow and caught ten striped bass up to 20 pounds. On Wednesday they fished the Cholera Banks for mackerel and came up with a winner. A five pound mackerel by the mate's wife. The fish was 20 inches long and nine and a half inches around. It has been sent to be mounted by Pfluger.

The **Marlin III** has loaded up on cod and pollack offshore of Block Island. Capt. Rade says they are getting at least ten to 15 cod between 30 and 50 pounds every day.

John Keller of **Lake Montauk Marina** said the fluke are in both at the North Rips and on the South side. On Sunday Phil Green of upper Manhattan fished the North Rip and had 25 fluke up to six pounds.

Codfish line the rail of the Marlin III at Montauk. Over 300 fish, 8 between 25 and 42 pounds, were taken Monday at Block Island.



This catch of cod and pollack was made at Block Island aboard the "Triton II" out of Montauk.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** said that the snowshoe flounder are good on the east side of Cartwright Island. One boat Sunday had 5 of their fish go 3-lbs. and more. There's a few blackfish mixed-in 2-8-lb. Mackerel have vanished. Mussel, clams and worm all work on the snowshoes.

SAG HARBOR

Helen Jacobsen of the **Noyac Marina** said that fishing was off Saturday and picked up Sunday. Spotty bluefish around, which may be making the weakfish nervous. A 9¾ lb. weak was wieghed in Friday. Weakfishing slowed up at buoy 16, best spots now off Monastery and Long Beach. Porgies spott, sea robins galore. Giant sand sharks up to 10-lbs. weighed in. Try them, they're good eating!

SHINNECOCK

Both of the **Capt. Clark** boats have done well on Friday on the weaks and porgies. Saturday and Sunday was slow due to the large number of small boats throughout the bay. The weaks are running from three to six pounds. Bill Hediger of New York City won the pool with a seven and three quarter pound weakfish.

Mickey of **Altenkirch Tackle** said that the fishing held steady over the weekend. Plenty of fluke in the inlet, one doormat of 12½-lbs. weighed-in. There's a few bass on the beach. Weaks good in Peconic Bay. A few fluke are being taken in the canal, no weakfish. Construction in the canal is hurting fishing. Plenty of flounder still in Shinnecock Bay but few are fishing for them.

HAMPTON BAYS

Tony's Fishing Station said flounder and fluke were very good over the weekend. Plenty of fluke of 15-22" in the inlet, all standard baits working well. Flounder plentiful by buoys 18 and 24.

Frank of **Franks's Fishing Station** said that "fluking was damn good" in the east channel by the inlet. Plenty of fluke, two going 3½ and-6-lbs. An 8½-lb. bluefish was taken in the inlet by someone fishing for fluke with a strip of squid. Plenty of good size flounder by buoys 18, 20 and the Coast Guard Station.

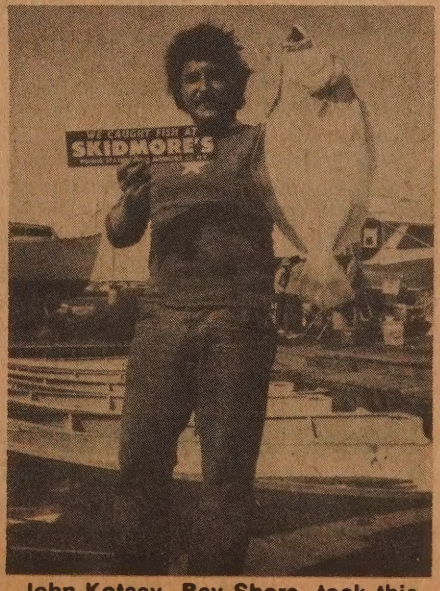
MORICHES BAY

Chet at **Tadsen's Fishing Station** said the flounder fishing is very good. They are scattered and at buoys 29 and 30 also at the Red House down to buoy 27. Chet says that although the fluke are there that they are thin and you should wait a week or two.

Skidmore's Fishing Station reports one customer caught 80 flounders on the outgoing tide at Haven's Point. He was using mussel chum and worms. There are fluke being caught on a combination of any white bait and a killy. Buoy 36 in the Old Cut and buoys 38 to 39. Fluke are only two pounds or better.

Frank Cerullo of **Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station** says the flounder fishing is fantastic by buoys 27, 29 & 32. Now that the flounders are up worms and clams are enough bait. Fluke of two to five pounds are being taken in the Old Cut drifting with sand eels and squid combo. Frank says to remember that only fluke that measure over 14 inches from the nose to the fork in the tail may be taken.

Chet at **B & B Tackle** says the ¾oz. white Tri-Fin lure hung on a "coat hanger" rig has been picking up striped bass to 20 pounds outside of Shinnecock. Locally, flounders are active around buoy 27 and off Great Gun Beach. A few went as high as two pounds. School bass activity around the bars at Smith Point Bridge. They



John Kotsay, Bay Shore, took this 5¼-lb. fluke by buoy 36 in Moriches Bay on sand eels.

are taking small popping lures.

MASTIC BEACH

Kennan's Fishing Station reports excellent fluke fishing between buoys 23 to 26. Use squid and shiner combo on any moving tide says Ronnie. Weakfishing had dropped off during the day but picks up at night. Striped bass have been taken at Smith Point Bridge with one unconfirmed report of a 49 pounder taken on a strip of bunker. Flounder fishing is generally good all over.

WEST SAYVILLE

Vito Intini of **South Bay Fishing Station** says nobody is picking up 271 weakfish anymore but this fishing is still very good. Sal Ferrante and his buddy "Spanky" both of West Islip drifted between buoy 4 and 5 with Salty Dog lures tipped with squid and had 12 weaks up to seven pounds. Fluke are in but small, but some go to five pounds. Flounders are there but you must work for them.

Jack at **American Sportsman** said the fluke are just starting. Weakfish can be had drifting the flats off Heckscher Park. Sea bass are being taken off Ocean Beach where a possible record breaking fish was caught. An 11 year old, John Windels of Sayville, caught a five pound two ounce black sea bass on six pound test Ande Tournament line using a Salty Dog lure. Good Luck John!

CAPTREE

Howie Robbins of Syosset on Tuesday sailed aboard the **Capt. Joseph** and caught 26 fluke between them. Howie just missed winning the pool with his three pound plus fluke.

George Tweedy called to say the **Capt. Scotty** had done well during the week catching weaks near the clam dredges. Catches of three to five and up to 12 fish are had by the anglers. On Saturday and Sunday they are fluke fishing at the inlet where in an hour and a half drift everyone had at least three fluke.

Capt. Swanson says the flounder are nearly done and the fluke are picking up. The fluke are up to five pounds with everyone getting a decent catch.

Capt. Bauer of the **Capt. Whittaker** has been fluke fishing during the day and weakfishing in the afternoon. Fluke are taking killies and run in size from shorts to seven pounds.

Capt. Rod Westerlind reports has runs from good to fair. During the week and in the early A.M. before the boat traffic starts they have had over 100 fish on one drift. The fluke are starting to spread throughout the bay. Rod's brother, Capt. Wayne, had an 11 pound fluke on Sunday.

Neal Kapauff at the **Captree Bait Station** reports fluke and flounder being taken at high tide at the Robert Moses Pier and flounder at Captree Pier also at high tide. At Oak Beach the flounder were caught on the outgoing. Neal said he had heard of no striped bass activity this week. The weakfishing has dropped off at all piers.

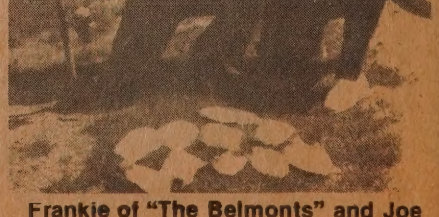
BABYLON

Charlie's Fishing Station reports lots of weaks in the State Channel and also in the east-west channel off Bergen Point. The anglers are using squid or Salty Dog lures on the incoming tide. Also on the uptide are fluke which are taking sand eels or killies in combination with squid.

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** said there is good weakfishing in the Snakehill and Dickerson Channels for the anglers using Salty Dog lures. In the same channels are also fluke which are taking sand eels or spearing with squid combos. Both of these fish are hitting on moving water.

LINDENHURST

Duke's Tackle said to try for fluke at the Fire Island Inlet shallows using sand eels. The weakfish action seems to be slowing which indicates to Duke that possibly bluefish may be starting in the east part of the bay. Look for an upswing at that time in the weakfishing in the west part of the bay in the State Channel and Copiague Hole. Bobby Kramer and his charterboat **Bluewater II** took a 90 pound blue shark in 174 feet of water 156 degrees



Frankie of "The Belmonts" and Joe Fazio pose over some Great South Bay flounder.

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out of Fire Island Inlet. Capt. Kramer also had three bluefish in the eight to ten pound range while baitfishing with whale bunker and chumming with Shark Lure.

AMITYVILLE

George Comb's Bait & Tackle reported a good catch of bass Sunday at Cedar Beach. Jim McCabe and Stubby Gibbins took 17 striped bass 2-32 lbs. on striper swipers and Stan Gibbs fluorescent pencil poppers. Excellent fluke in the Amityville Cut, West Island and the Wantagh bridges. Good blackfishing up to 5-lbs. at the bridges. Weakfish are spotty and smaller compared to last week. A few bass were clam chummed in the State Channel.

Jona's Bait & Tackle said that fluke fishing has picked up considerably. Jona weighed in a 9-lb. 7-oz. fluke for Lou Clemens of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club. The fish was taken on a squid and killie combo by the Fire Island lighthouse. Plenty of blackfish by Oak Beach. There are a few weaks in the Copiague and Amityville area but it is slowing up and the fish are smaller. Flounder are plentiful at the Sore Thumb and go up to 2 lbs.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser's said there was excellent fluke fishing at Squaw Island and Jones Inlet. Most fish are aroung 2 lbs. Kevin Kelly, Eugene Valentine and Bob Sullivan took 25 fluke off the Captree Pier. A few bass are being trolled off Lido Beach. Weakfish are scattered, with good catches when they are located. Flounder still excellent.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station said that fluke are good by the third bridge and Squaw Island. Some blue claw crabs were reported in the bay. Blackfish are good by the rockpile and the third bridge. No weaks or bass were brought in.

Pop's Fishing Station reports fluke at Goose Creek and Squaw Island. Fish are small, but there are plenty of keepers. Nobody is weakfishing.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker of **Causeway Bait & Tackle** said that fluke are in very strong at Squaw Island, Jones Inlet and the State Channel. Weakfish are floundering, flounder are weak. Blackfish good at all bridges and piers, few are fishing for them. School bass at the second and third bridges.

MERRICK

Fishing is very good, according to Ron at the **Whaleneck Marina.** Some big bass are being trolled off Lido Beach. Also schoolies at Lido on clam chum. Fantastic fluke fishing in the inlet. Average 15 fluke per boat up to 6-pounds. Still plenty of flounder off Nick's Point. Blackfish good at the bridges.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Paul Schmidt of the **Aloma** called to say the fluke fishing is really great and the flounder are still around in good numbers. The weekend saw a lot of full bags walking off the boat.

Sea Hunter reports fluking excellent. Capt. Bob is working the Swift Creek area. On saturday, a woman on board took a 10½ lb. fluke on a spearing-squid combo at Swift Creek Bridge on high outgoing water.

Edna at the **Poop Deck Dock** informs us that the **Capt. Lou II** is mohawking big fluke and a lot of flounder as well.

The **Capt. Al** is running offshore and doing well on sea bass up to 3½ lbs. with blacks up to 5 lbs. Macks are gone from the scene. Most all anglers end up with full bags. The charterboat **Capt. II** has been staying in the bays and picking fluke, flounder and an occasional sea bass.

The **Starstream II** is having excellent catches of sea bass, blacks and ling, only 55 minutes from the inlet.

Schulty Sporting Goods reports customers coming in and raving about the flounder, fluke and weakfish action, in just about all the bays.

The **Freeport Boatmen's Assn.** reports all the boats are doing terrific jobs on fluke and also on flounder. But the fluking is great.

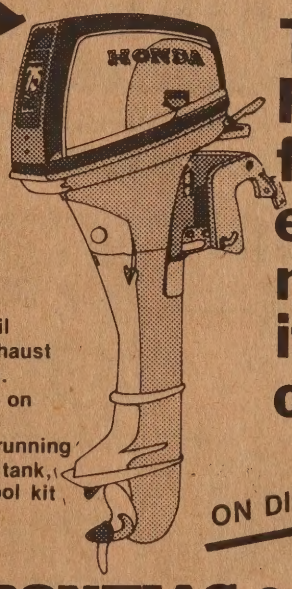
POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Andy Pollio of the charterboat **Junior II** is doing well on sea bass and blacks, along with a few stripers and 6 weaks on Sunday. Andy is fishing outside, at a couple of local wrecks.

Ed's fishing Station reports very good fluking with killie-spearing combo baits in the inlet, at Short Beach and the flats, up to 4½ lbs. Piles of flounder at the Coast Guard Cove and drifting the channel. Still some blacks at the bridges. One stray blue taken on Sunday.

L.I. Sea Clam reports lots of stripers in the nets, but hasn't heard of any caught on hook and line yet.

HONDA 75



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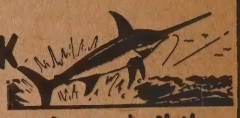

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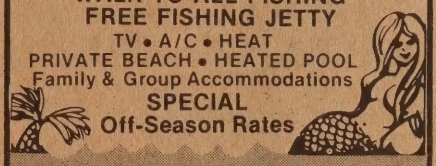

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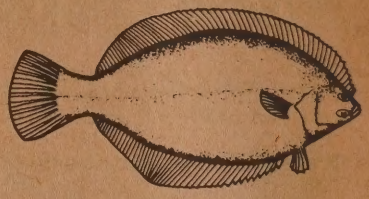

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LONG BEACH

Tom at **Long Beach Sports Marina** tells of the best fluke fishing he's ever seen. "They're in strong and they're big". Best baits are killies, spearing and combos with squid strip. Reynolds Channel is the place and the hot spot seems to be Duck Pt. Fluke up to 6 lbs. Weaks are spotty. Fair—good black fishing at the Atlantic Beach jetties. Some flounder. But brother—those fluke!

ISLAND PARK

Capt. Bill of the **Jennie-Mae** reports very good sea bass catches (up to 3 lbs.), also ling, blacks are filling the bags. Fluke top it off. Good season, says Capt. Bill.

Bill at **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook verifies excellent fluking all thru Reynolds Channel from end to end on sand eels, spearing, killies, squid and combo baits. He weighed in a 6½ pounder over the weekend. Black still around. A few bass up to 12 lbs. chummed at the Atlantic Beach Bridge and the Meadowbrook Bridge.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Henning's Fishing Station tells of excellent fluking, boats taking anywhere from 12 to a bucketfull. Marty Rubenstein and Harry Glatzer of Brooklyn, on Saturday, took 26 up to 3½ lbs., at the N. side of buoy 1 between the Yacht Club and the Atlantic Beach Bridge. Spearing, sand eels and squid bait combos. "The channel is loaded with fluke" says Leon Miller. Blacks excellent at the jetties and bridges. Bass on trolled Lupo spoons. On Saturday, Walt Kachook on board the Kim took a 44 lb. striper at Sandy Hook on the Lupo Bunker Spoon.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Cross Bay Rod & Gun** reports flounder scattered in the bay, but on the way out. Eels at North Channel Bridge. Sand porgies at South Channel Bridge. Blacks at both ends of the Marine Pkwy. Bridge. Fluke also. Some weaks in the bay on squid and Salty Dogs. Bass very slow and scattered.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Victor of the **Tampa IV** has been running over to Oyster Bay for mackerel which are thick as fleas there. Hi-hook on Sunday was 90 fish. It's been excellent there all week at the "A Buoy". A few weakfish were jigged too.

Capt. Don Palermo of the **Mary** has been scoring very well on sea bass, blacks and also porgies. Dom has also picked up some fluke off Riis Park.

RETRACTION—last week, it was reported here that stripes were taken at the roundhouse on a Lupo Umbrella. It should have read Bingle Umbrella. Our boo-boo.

Stella Maris reports plenty of school bass being trolled on umbrella rigs off the Tin Can Grounds. Also, late last week a 45 lb. bass was taken on a whole bunker.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports macks still up in the Sound. The Sheepshead Bay boats are doing very well on blacks, sea bass & porgies. Some fluke at Riis Park & Coney Island. Great comeback of sea bass, says Mike. "Amen", says L.I.F.

STATEN ISLAND

Lennie Killoran at **Santo's Sport Shop** reports steady striper action at Freat Kills Park, beach side, on worms from the beach and boats. Fish are 2-4 lbs., up to 8 lbs. Some have moved down to Anadale where they are being taken on white, white and blue poppers and Hopkins & Kastmasters. Flounder activity is down. Fluke action good. Small blacks in rocky areas. Some blue claw crabs. Weaks off Midland Beach on worm rigs. Some blues at Sandy Hook.

Mike McViegh and Bob Hansen with 30 and 35 pound striped bass they caught aboard Capt. Ronnie Lepper's boat the "Kim." The fish were trolled on the new Lupo bunker spoon.

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

GREENPORT

Art White reports blacks in the Sound. Porgies and weakfish are at Jessups Neck and Middle Grounds if you can get through the weekend boat traffic. Some anglers there caught a few blues while bait fishing for weaks and porgies. At Bunker City on the east side of Shelter Shelter Island a few blues were also caught.

According to Art White the **Wilheric** and the **Brand X** had good fishing for weaks and porgies.

SOUTHOLD

Bill Liblien of **Port of Egypt** said there were good weakfishing all week long but boat traffic on the weedends makes for an impossible situation. Jessup Neck and the Middle Grounds both have weaks and porgies. A few blues were picked up but they are scattered.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's reports weakfish in the South Race and southwest of Robins Island. Weaks and porgies from Cow's Neck to buoy 30 and south of Nassau Point to Rose Grove. Squid and worms on a Salty Dog tipped with squid will work on the weaks while worms and skimmers are O.K. for the porgies.

JAMESPORT

Warren Staib of **Warren's Tackle** took a Connecticut man out on Thursday and fished south of Robins Island and had 30 weaks up to eight pounds. Warren's secret is a Sea King lure with a red head and a white or pink body.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Good mixed fishing for blacks, porgies, flounder and bass. These fish are being taken either off the beach or from a boat by anglers using worms and clams for the first three and worms alone for the striped bass. Some striped bass of four and five pounds are being caught in the back of the harbor on worms.

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On $40,000	1972	Inbd.	$500 Ded.	$403
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Dr. & Mrs. Gauta and children Joseph and Anna of New Jersey. 6-year-old Joseph caught this 10-lb. 5 oz. weakfish with an assist from Dad. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fischer of the **Betty W** said whether it was open boat or a charter the blackfish pool has been from eight to 12 pounds. On Tuesday an eleven-year-old boy, Mike Shimborski of Richmond Hill won the pool with a nine and a half pound black. On Saturday, The Dry Harbor Anglers had over 20 fish per man. The catch consisted blacks and sea bass along with some porgies up to two pounds. Capt. Fischer says the blacks are hitting on clams and when caught other blacks follow it to the boat.

Bill Littlefield on the **Jib III** says the blacks and sea bass are being caught in good numbers. They have been catching about 80 blacks and 40 or so sea bass. Porgies are plentiful in the ¾ to one pound class. Worms and clam are the prime bait.

Bobby at **Plaza Sporting Goods** reports flounders, blacks and porgies being caught on sandworms at The Harbor jetties. Weakfish in the harbor on Touts and Salty Dog lure.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Tim at **Smithtown Sports** reports small bass being caught on small Alou eels off Sunken Meadow. Flounders are at the last buoy at the Nissequogue River. A five pound weakfish was caught east of Crane's Neck on a pink Tout.

NORTHPORT

Capt. Pete of the trailered charter boat **Jennie Three** had a 6-man charter out Saturday off buoy 3 at Heckshire State Park and did a job on weaks up to 7 lbs. Artificial shrimp and also bait fishing (clam & squid) while clam chumming did it. The bigger fish fell to the baited hooks. Some fluke came over the side, also. A 3-man charter on Sunday repeated this, only to a lesser degree, due to the boat traffic.

Porgies are at Sand City according to Van at the **Chainlocker.** He has caught striped bass off Ashroken and Centerport beaches using a five inch Rebel or a Hopkins with a bucktail. The bass are running three to five pounds. Fishing for weakfish at Duck Island with a shrimp lure brings in weaks up to six pounds.

HUNTINGTON

The **Ever-Ready Fleet** has been catching a thousand or more fish on every trip. Capt. Constantine said on Sunday during a half day trip Bill Mc Cabe and John Carney of Flushing, caught 326 fish. A complete mixed bag of fish, blacks, weaks, porgies and flounder. Some fluke were also caught. Cub Pack 471 went out also on a half day and had over 1,000 fish.

Four Winds Tackle reports bass being picked up by casters going after weakfish at Duck Island. Weaks and bass are also off Marshall Field Estate. Porgies are fantastic and are taking worms and clams at Sand City and off the entrance to Lloyd Harbor. The weaks at Marshall Field were taken on squid.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Veteran's Fishing Station reports plenty of blacks and humpback porgies at Whitewood Point. The blacks are taking fiddler crabs and worms while worms are best for the porgies. Boston mackerel are in the Sound as well as weaks. Weaks are also in Oyster Bay harbor and off Whitewood Point. Striped bass are taking trolled worms on both sides of the harbor.

Larry Di Costanzo, Phil Cialdella, Joe Palladino and John Comito, all from Brooklyn, caught porgies up to 3¾ lbs. and flounder up to 2½-lbs. off Nassau Point. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

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CITY ISLAND

Ed at **Rosenberger's boathouse** reports plenty of blacks most of the rocky islands. Harts, High and the Chimney were mentioned. Porgies were on and off at Sands Point. Flounders are still around in the muddy spots near Harts or High Islands. Small striped bass being caught off the beach at Turtle Cove. Trolling sand worm with a Cape Cod or June Bug spinners off Harts will also produce.

The open boats **Theresa L III**, new **Apache** and **North Star** have been loading up on porgies and blackfish. At Eaton's Neck some boats have picked up some weaks according to Jack's Bait & Tackle.

Jack's Bait & Tackle said the Execu--tion and Gangway Rocks as well as north and south of Harts Island have plenty of blacks. They are taking fiddler crabs mostly. Mackerel are in the Sound east of Harts Island. Bass in Turtle Cove casting from the beach. Off Sands Point and Harts Island worm drifters are picking up striped bass. Pluggers in the same area using the Atom Popper are also getting hits.

Scott Everett took this 9-lb. 2 oz. weakfish on a Salty Dog on May 19 at buoy 4 off Heckscher.

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

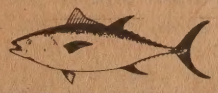
SANDY HOOK

Fred's Bait Service reports stripers to 32 pound off the Golf Ball. Small bass are taking sand worms ar Morgan Beach where fluke to 6 pounds are also being caught. Weakfish are available in the Shrewsbury River.

Julian's reported stripers on the "hard stuff" meaning spoons for trollers working from the Golf Ball to the Highlands Bridge. Live herring accounted for Frank Adams' 45 pound striper.

LONG BRANCH

Steve's Tackle weighed bass up to 38½ pounds caught on live herring off the jetties. 4-5 pound stripers are hitting on swimming plugs and sand worms.



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CONNECTICUT SCENE

NEW HAVEN

Outdoor Sports reports mackerel plentiful around breakwaters from Branford to Milford. Big porgies are also being taken. Try Savin Rock, Woodmont and Lighthouse. Bass are only fair. Weakfish are starting around Branford and Charles Island.

MILFORD

Sportsman's Rendezvous tells of mackerel, plenty of blacks, and good sized flounder (when you find them).

STRATFORD

Housatonic Marina reports plenty of blacks, flounder and mackerel. Try the breakwaters. A few bass are being taken at the river mouth. Porgies and the first fluke of the season are in.

BRIDGEPORT

Sportsmen Den is also reporting weakfish a 4¼ pounder taken inside the harbor.

Ted's Bait reports bass at Sunken Island on worms. They're plentiful. Also, another weak was taken at Seaside on worms.

NORWALK

Mola Bros. Bait & Tackle said there is good porgy fishing at buoy 24A. Sea bass are also being taken there. Stripers have been spotted all over the islands but are not cooperative. Blacks however, in the same area do cooperate on green crabs.

The Tackle Box is still reporting plenty of mackerel with some porgy reports thrown in. Bass action is mostly schoolies.

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ROWAYTON

The Bait Shop has heard rumors of Tailor blues on this side of the Sound. The Longneck Point area was the place mentioned. Mackerel plentiful Sheffield and Green Ledge light.

STAMFORD

Pat's Marina tells of bass action at Mc Culloughs Seawall and at Shippan. Mackerel are still in the area. Blacks & porgies are readily available.

MAMARONECK

Mamaroneck Fishing Station adds to the growing weakfish news with a 4 pound 13 ounce weak taken by a local angler while trolling for mackerel near Scotch Caps. There were plenty of mackerel there too. Blacks are in strong, bass are slow.

GREENWICH

Sportsmen's Den told of bass inside Greenwich Cove and mackerel thick right outside. Bass fishermen are averaging 8-to-10 fish and things are only starting. The fish are small but give it time.

WESTPORT

Westport Tackle Shop reports bass and mackerel hitting local beaches. Local surf fishermen are delighted since the fish spend the afternoon and evening there. Porgies are thick outside the Norwalk islands. Blackfish are fantastic.

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SHARK IDENTIFICATION
(Continued from page 17.)

Size is the primary clue to the white. Everything about him is huge. Documented captures (by harpoon) of fish that were 16-17 feet long were estimated to weigh between 3000 and 4000 pounds. A 21-foot specimen has been reported to weigh over 7000 pounds.

Specific details regarding location of his fins for identification purposes have already been mentioned in the sections on his relatives, the mako and porbeagle. He can easily be distinguished from the mako and porbeagle by his serrated teeth, which are broad, massive triangles.

Thresher—(*Alopias vulpinus*)—Family Alopiidae

The tresher is the only member of its family. Its size has been reported to 20 feet and the all-tackle record is 922 pounds. The thresher is rather difficult to confuse with any other shark because of the uniqueness of its tail. The upper lobe of the caudal fin is almost as long as the thresher's head and body. In color, the thresher is black or very dark brown, or gray, or gray-blue on top, with gradual lightening on the sides, and a white belly. His smooth teeth quickly taper up to a sharp point.

A good trick to use when all other methods of identification fail is to examine the shark's teeth *carefully*. (A long time after you've caught him; muscle spasms have caused shark jaws to snap shut after he's been "dead" for hours). Shark's teeth are pretty much like finger prints; each species has a distinctive tooth configuration. When your specimen's tooth matches the sketch, you have a positive identification. The same technique of using teeth as a clue to identification holds true for the non-game fish sharks, as you'll see in Part II of Shark Identification.

Author's Note:

In researching the material for this article, I consulted about a dozen books; animal encyclopedias, books written by shark experts, etc. I found a great deal of conflicting data. For example, one source said makos had pointed noses and another said they had blunt snouts. Because I was not able to reconcile this kind of difference, I deleted that data point. There was a great deal of variation in the description of a species' color. In this case, I either took the majority opinion, or cited all colors used in describing that shark. Size and weight was another area of disagreement. The figures I used were from the most recently published books that were available to me.

(Editor's note: An excellent reference guide to identifying sharks is "Anglers' Guide to Sharks of the Northeastern United States—Maine to Chesapeake Bay" by John G. Casey. Write to the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and ask for "Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Circular No. 179.")

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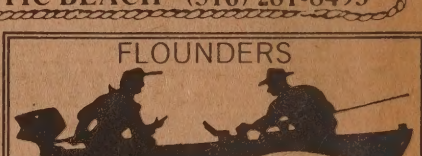

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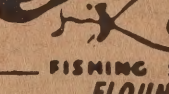

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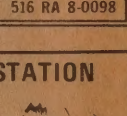

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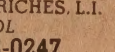

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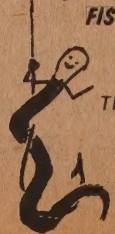

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YELLOWFINS
(Continued from page 7.)

1950's: We must be careful to prevent overfishing, excessive pollution on the spawning grounds, and the continuing destruction of salt marshes which are vital for successful spawning and the development of the young weakfish.

There are several disturbing developments already this year. For one thing, some fisheries biologists are predicting that there will be fewer outsized tide-runners in 1974. Second, the species did not apparently have a successful year-class last year, as witnessed by the absence of four-to six-inch fish mixed in with the catches of snappers. These small fish had been very abundant in recent years.

Let's hope that the fishery will maintain itself for generations to come so that many new and as yet untested generations of anglers may be able to enjoy the thrill of a powerful yellowfin.

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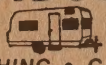

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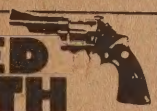

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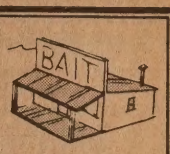

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PACEMAKER - 1965 26 ft. Sportfish. Flybridge, 185 H.P. V-8 Crusader, re-built, sleeps 4, dinette, galley, ship to shore 23 channel CB, depthfinder, outriggers, ginpole, many, many extras. Completely re-painted throughout. Immaculate. $5,000. Call (516) 226-5862

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18 ft. BOSTON WHALER, 1971 Johnson 85 H.P. electric start. New battery, teleflex steering, center console, depth finder, lights. Little Dude trailer 1971. 3 fuel tanks, extras, good condition. $2,150. Call after 6 p.m. Charlie (516) 884-7969

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SPORT FISHING SPECIALS

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17' MAKO, 85 H.P. Evinrude, trailer, VHF radio, mint cond.
22' LUHRS, 185 V8 Chris, Apelco chart recorder $995.
32' PACEMAKER, twin 215's, F/B, tournament outriggers, gin pole, shower, hot & cold running water, ex. cond.
32' PEMBROKE CUSTOM SEDAN, F/B, twin 185 F/W/C V8.
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BUILDING FOR SALE - Freeport - zoned marine industrial - waterfront property - bld'g. 3850 sq. ft. - 10 boat slips - new 8½% 15 yr. mortgage - low cash required - principals only - owner (516) 379-1576 call p.m.

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FISHING TACKLE

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
5/30 THURSDAY	3:45	4:27	5:36	6:07	8:04	8:31	7:22	7:49
5/31 FRIDAY	4:48	5:25	6:38	7:01	9:05	9:26	8:23	8:44
6/1 SATURDAY	5:46	6:16	7:35	7:49	10:01	10:16	9:18	9:37
6/2 SUNDAY	6:39	7:03	8:24	8:35	10:51	11:01	10:10	10:24
6/3 MONDAY	7:25	7:46	9:08	9:17	11:38	11:46	10:59	11:10
6/4 TUESDAY	8:09	8:27	9:49	9:58	-	12:19	11:42	11:54
6/5 WEDNESDAY	8:48	9:06	10:31	10:39	12:23	12:56	-	12:27
6/6 THURSDAY	9:29	9:43	11:12	11:17	12:52	1:27	12:36	1:08

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

5/21	5/28	6/4	6/13
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

030272-
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